

JOSEPH IRISH, WILLIAM STURGIS, AND BARTHOLOMEW
BALDWIN.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 656.]

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JANUARY 10, 1857.
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Mr. THORINGTON, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, made
the following

REPORT.

*The Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom were submitted the
petitions of Joseph Irish, William Sturgis, and Bartholomew Bald-
win, made the following report :*

It appears that a part of what is now the Territory of Minnesota was surveyed before the organization of its territorial government, and while it was a portion of Wisconsin. The act organizing the Territory reserved for public school purposes the sixteenth section only in each township, while that of Minnesota reserves the sixteenth and thirty-sixth sections for the same purpose. It appears that the petitioners had each settled on thirty-sixth sections prior to the passage of said act, and in ignorance of its provisions, and they therefore pray for relief.

Relief has been granted in cases similar by the recommendation of the Commissioner of the General Land Office. In the other Territories of the United States relief is granted in such cases by a general law. It appears that the petitioners have resided on the sections they claim many years, that they have improved the same, and that they made their settlements in good faith; and your committee therefore recommend the passage of the bill herewith reported for their relief.

